

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 L-02 PM-03

DODE-00 EA-13 OIC-01 SAM-01 SPC-01 DRC-01 /061 W

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O R 251604Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4255

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK 114

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1232

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, VN

SUBJECT: GENEVA CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR--PRG ISSUE

1. DESPITE THE CURRENT STALEMATE IN THE CONFERENCE, RESUMPTION OF PLENARY SESSIONS MAY OCCUR TOMORROW, FEB. 27. IF SO, A VOTE ON THE PRG INVITATION COULD TAKE PLACE THEN, BUT IT IS MORE LIKELY TO COME BEFORE THE DELEGATES ON FEB. 28.

2. OUR EFFORTS CENTER ON THESE LINES OF ATTACK:

A) TO ROUND UP AND REAFFIRM SUPPORT FOR OUR SIDE WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

B) CONCURRENTLY WITH THE FOREGOING, TO OBTAIN PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE BY FRIENDLY STATES; E.G. WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY MALAYSIA'S ARRIVAL AND NEWS FROM EMBASSY ROME ABOUT THE IMPENDING ENTRY OF SAN MARINO;

C) TO FRUSTRATE THE STEAMROLLER PSYCHOLOGY WHICH THE DRV ET AL ARE TRYING TO INCULCATE HERE, BY OUR MAKING KNOWN THE LARGE MEASURE OF SUPPORT FOR THE US-GVN WHICH OBTAINS AND BY CALLING
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UPON FRIENDLY NATIONS TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE PRG;

D) TO HAMPER THE ATTEMPT BY THE DRV ET AL TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH THE LDC'S, I.E. WE EMPHASIZE THE LACK OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRG ISSUE AND GUINEA-BISSAU/NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT QUESTIONS. WE THEREFORE ARE TRYING TO HAVE CONSIDERATION OF THE PRG INVITATION OCCUR AFTER VOTES ON THE OTHER TWO MATTERS AND IN ISOLATION FROM THEM.

3. LAST, BUT FAR FROM LEAST, WE ARE COORDINATING FULLY ON ALL STEPS WITH GVN AMBASSADOR LOI AND HIS STAFF (AUGMENTED BY ARRIVALS FROM OTHER POSTS AND SAIGON). THIS IS FOR MORALE AS WELL AS SUBSTANTIVE PURPOSES.

4. FYI. DESPITE ALL THESE EFFORTS, THE BEST OBJECTIVE GUESS AT THIS TIME INDICATES A NARROW LOSS BY OUR SIDE IN THE VOTING. END FYI. DALE

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